

Ser. No. 10/652,643

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the following paragraphs of the specification (numbered as-published whereas the as-filed numbering is two less):

[0005] One aspect of the invention involves a method for casting a number of blades, each having an airfoil and a root for securing the blade to a separate disk. A plurality of mold sections are formed each having internal surfaces for forming an associated at least one of the blades and for forming an associated feeding passageway. A plurality of the mold sections are assembled with a single distribution manifold having a plurality of feeder conduits or branches so that each branch mates with an inlet of an associated one of the feeding passageways. Molten alloy is introduced to the assembled mold sections.

[0006] In various implementations, the alloy may be simultaneously introduced to the assembled mold sections. Each of the sections may have internal surfaces for forming only a single associated blade. The surfaces of each of the mold sections may include first surfaces (e.g., of a mold shell) for forming an exterior of the associated blade and second surfaces (e.g., of a ceramic core) for forming an interior of the associated blade. ~~The assembly may involve assembling the mold sections with a single distribution manifold.~~ Each of the mold sections may be formed by assembling a sacrificial blade pattern and a sacrificial feeding passageway pattern (form) atop a plate. A shell may be applied to the blade pattern and feeding passageway form. The shell may be heated to melt at least a portion of each of the blade pattern and feeding passageway form.